

What is claimed is:

1. A portable electronic device comprising a first case housing a speaker therein, and a second case connected to the first case by a joint mechanism and openable or closable relative thereto, the first case having a front wall to be covered with the second case when the two cases are in a closed state or to be exposed when the two cases are in an opened state, the first case having a first sound radiating hole formed in the front wall and positioned as opposed to the speaker and a second sound radiating hole formed in a rear wall thereof and positioned as opposed to the speaker, the joint mechanism having a shutter attached thereto for opening or closing the second sound radiating hole with the closing or opening movement of the second case, the shutter being operable to open the second sound radiating hole when the two cases are in the closed state and to close the second sound radiating hole when the two cases are in the opened state.

2. A portable electronic device according to claim 1 wherein the joint mechanism is a hinge mechanism, and the hinge mechanism comprises a first knuckle formed at an upper end of the first case and a second knuckle formed at a lower end of the second case, the first and second knuckles being joined by and supported on a pivot and

rotatable relative to each other, the shutter comprising a strip member attached at a base end portion thereof to the second knuckle, the strip member having a free end portion to be wound up by the rotation of the second knuckle to

5 open the second sound radiating hole when the two cases are in the closed state or to be paid off by the rotation of the second knuckle to close the second sound radiating hole when the two cases are in the opened state.

3. A portable electronic device according to claim 2
10 wherein the speaker is held by a speaker holder and is provided with a guide for guiding winding up or paying out of the free end portion of the strip member.